ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Systems and methods for managing and processing print jobs in a networked computer environment without using a print server. In a computer system configuration that includes one or more clients connected to one or more printers via a network, a client is

5   configured to manage print jobs initiated by that client and optionally to manage print jobs initiated by other clients. In managing and processing print jobs, the clients utilize a broadcast that is transmitted across the network for a variety of purposes, such as to register a client in a distributed management of print jobs, to indicate an intent to despool a print job, to set or check the status of a despooled print job, to set or get the status of a particular printing

10   device, to request print queue information, and/or to request a print queue change. A local spooler or print processor initiates such broadcasts to enable the managing and processing of print jobs.

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